



Kentucky Department of Agriculture

Billy Ray Smith, Commissioner

2002 Kentucky Agricultural Emergency Plan



A lone farm tractor amid debris after a Western Kentucky tornado, Spring 2002. Ray Bowman photo, courtesy Kentucky Division of Emergency Management.

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A Message from Commissioner Smith



My fellow Kentuckians,

Kentucky has a safe, abundant supply of food products, thanks to regulatory protections from local, state and federal agencies, including the Kentucky Department of Agriculture.

Today the work of KDA and other agencies is more important than ever. Outbreaks of animal disease at home and abroad have thrust food safety issues to the front pages – and demonstrated the effectiveness of America’s regulatory system.

But a new threat has emerged since the terrorist attacks on the United States of Sept. 11, 2001. Agro-terrorism – the term for malicious and intentional acts intended to disrupt the food supply or food safety – now is a part of the agricultural vocabulary.

KDA staff have participated in tabletop exercises with agriculture leaders from other states to address a mock disaster. KDA employees have accumulated real-life, in-the-field experience with large-scale outbreaks of animal disease and other disasters in other states and other countries.

KDA helped develop the Kentucky Agriculture Emergency Management Plan and produced thousands of all-weather bio-security signs that list ways that farmers and their employees can prevent contamination of livestock. This booklet is another important step in the process of giving you the information you need to make important decisions that will affect your operation and possibly all of Kentucky agriculture.

It will help you find emergency contacts quickly and

Continued on Page 2

understand how government agencies work together in an emergency, such as an accidental pesticide spill, a weather disaster, or an act of terrorism.

As you read this booklet, we hope you also discover that KDA does far more than you may have known. For example, the Department is called upon to provide emergency food supplies in disasters that exhaust local stocks and Red Cross supplies. KDA also advises in situations involving agriculture-related hazardous materials.

I urge you to read this booklet and use the information it contains in the day-to-day operation of your business and in an emergency when seconds count.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Billy Ray Smith". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style with a large initial "B".

BILLY RAY SMITH
Commissioner
Kentucky Department of Agriculture

Public

*health emergencies*_____

Food Safety

After medical and safety needs are met in a disaster, food and shelter become the most critical issues at an emergency scene.

The Red Cross is the first to meet immediate, emergency needs in a community with its food network.

The Kentucky Department of Agriculture (KDA) plays a critical role in instances where emergencies require an even greater food supply.

The Division of Food Distribution is another example of public services provided by KDA that may not gain much public attention.

The Kentucky Department of Agriculture plays a crucial role in instances where emergencies require a great food supply.

KDA performs many duties as a regulator, a supporter of farmers, growers and producers, and as a representative for Kentucky consumers. Some of these public services are high profile, such as marketing Kentucky Fresh/Proud products or participating in the State Fair. Our employees provide many other services such as amusement ride safety inspections, assuring the accuracy of supermarket price scanners and gasoline pumps, and monitoring animal health. These duties are performed to protect the Kentucky consumers.

The Division of Food Distribution is another example of these public services, administering state and federal food

programs for the needy and for school children. The division receives, stores and distributes USDA commodities to the National School Lunch Program, Charitable Institution program, Emergency Food Assistance Program and Commodity Supplemental Food Program.

In times of emergency, the division is the next critical link when the Red Cross is confronted with a disaster that exhausts its food network.

During every Kentucky disaster, KDA employees from the Division of Food Distribution are among those at the table at the Boone National Guard Center when the Kentucky Division of Emergency Management activates for the state emergency management plan.

Emergency Management coordinates relief efforts after a disaster and helps survivors meet emergency needs for food, shelter and safety.

The Red Cross is among the first to arrive, usually searching for a school or large building to establish shelter and feeding centers. The first role is to supply food. When the Red Cross doesn't have enough food to cover the disaster, Red Cross officials contact KDA's Division of Food Distribution through the emergency management network.

The Food Distribution Division oversees a massive food distribution network that supplies food to Kentucky's public school system. There is a reason why schools are usually where disaster relief efforts are centered. Food supplies are on hand there, a fully-equipped cafeteria is in place, and there is room to provide temporary shelter for large numbers of people.

If a disaster exhausts Red Cross food supplies and KDA's access to a local school system's food supplies, KDA can gather canned goods and commodities from school districts and state warehouses throughout the Commonwealth.

The Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) has even larger reserves of food through the U.S. Department of Agriculture and would directly supply emergency food in disasters so large as to require federal assistance.

The President of the United States has specific access and authority over such emergency supplies.

Federal emergency food supplies are tapped only if grocery stores are depleted, the Red Cross has exhausted its food supplies, and KDA's Division of Food Distribution needs more help.

Examples: You may have personally witnessed how disasters can bring a community and neighbors together to help those in need.

The same happens in coordination among government agencies aimed at helping the public in a crisis.

Our most common experiences in Kentucky are with tornadoes and flooding. We also know from history and from proximity that the New Madrid Fault exposes us to a potentially widespread threat of earthquake damage that could disrupt the bridges and highways that are needed to keep the food supply moving from farm to family and from shelf to chef.

In every case, the Red Cross is the first to arrive behind the safety and rescue workers, setting up emergency feeding centers and arranging for shelter.

When the Falmouth area flooded a few years ago, the Red Cross called on the Division of Food Distribution for additional food supplies. Flooding victims at feeding centers had to be fed for nearly three weeks.

When the Red Cross needs help, it contacts the state agriculture commissioner.

Since terrorist attacks on the United States on Sept. 11, 2001, we must also prepare for previously unthinkable disasters – malicious and intentional acts to disrupt our food supply or threaten entire communities.

What can you do? Ever notice how quickly the supermarket shelves empty when snow is forecast in Kentucky? That illustrates that your community has about a one- or two-day supply of food on the shelves.

There's a reason why you constantly see store employees unpacking boxes in the aisles. The daily supply of eggs, bread, meat and milk is sold out and restocked continually.

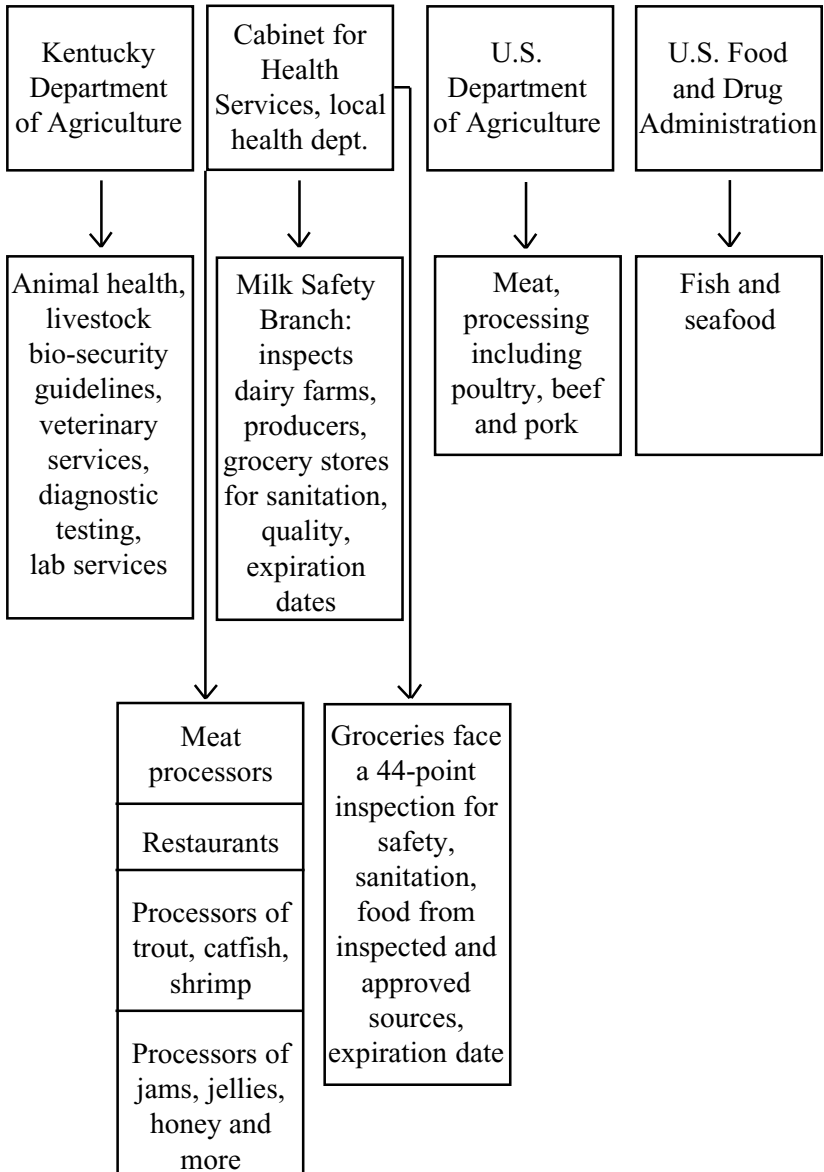
The Red Cross can meet local disasters that are confined to a town or a few counties throughout the duration of the cleanup, sometimes for many days or weeks. But when flooding covers several counties, additional food is needed from KDA, FEMA and the USDA.

State warehouses and public schools are stocked with canned goods during the school year from August to April and KDA and our public schools have access to these supplies in an emergency.

The federal government has a massive food storage program of canned goods, secure in salt caves centrally located near Kansas City. These supplies are tapped by the USDA and FEMA in the most serious national disasters. The goods include canned meat, fruits, vegetables and juices. Water is provided by the National Guard and FEMA.

That's why every household should have at least a three-day supply of water and at least a one-week supply of canned goods. Especially consider special needs such as baby food, first aid kits and prescriptions.

How inspectors work together, assure safe food chain



Animal

emergencies _____

Disease Response

The Kentucky Department of Agriculture's Division of Animal Health field inspectors may be the initial contact addressing any foreign animal disease (FAD) event. The Office of the State Veterinarian and the Office of the U.S. Department of Agriculture/Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service's veterinarians may also be the first contact since veterinarians and all other individuals with knowledge of an FAD must report to their office.

Developing cooperative plans makes it easier for all agencies to interact in identifying, controlling and eradicating a foreign animal disease and other disasters.

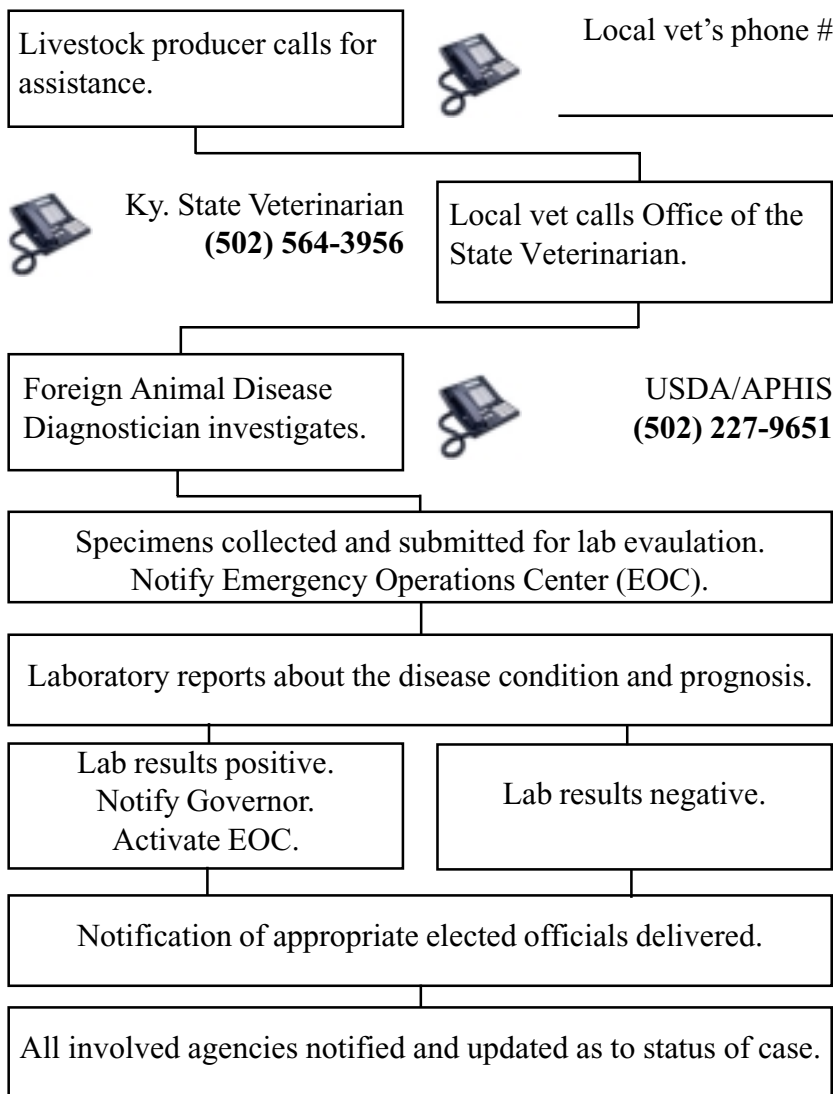
The Kentucky Department of Agriculture (KDA) will develop an operational manual to address individual diseases. The basic guidelines are established in the "Emergency Operations Manual" which outlines the responsibilities for cooperation among state/federal agencies. Developing such plans makes it easier for all agencies to interact in identifying, controlling and eradicating a foreign animal disease and other disasters.

To report an emergency situation, contact animal health personnel at **(502) 564-3956**. U.S. Department of Agriculture veterinarians are trained in foreign animal diseases and may be contacted at **(502) 227-9651**.

State and federal veterinarians work together on an FAD investigation. The State Veterinarian and the U.S. Department of Agriculture Area Veterinarian in Charge will keep all national, state and local emergency management individuals informed about actions that may be necessary.

Livestock disease

————— *What happens next?*



Reportable Diseases

Livestock owners know much about their animals, but more education is needed by the public on what to do and whom to call during times of crisis or disease, according to Kentucky Department of Agriculture veterinarians. Similar signs abound in flocks of every species, and farmers need to be knowledgeable of these signals that something is wrong.

The following five points are telltale signs of disease in an animal or flock that are common to most species:

- Staggering, falling, or inability to rise.
- Illness affecting a large percentage of animals.
- Sudden death losses within the livestock group.
- Blistering around an animal's lips, teats or hooves.
- Unusual ticks or maggots.

It's common practice to call a more experienced neighbor or relative to look at an animal that is suspected of being ill. If the animal is carrying a disease that can be transported by attaching itself to a host, the neighbor or relative may end up spreading the disease to his or her own livestock. A livestock owner should first call a veterinarian.

There are many animal diseases for which veterinarians are especially alert. Should your veterinarian feel there is a possibility that one of those diseases may be in your livestock herd, he is under obligation to contact KDA's Office of the State Veterinarian. The veterinarian may also go to the animal health officials of the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA). In

Kentucky, both the Office of the State Veterinarian and the USDA may impose quarantine on a property; only the State Veterinarian may release the quarantine.

A quarantine may be imposed on the spot if it is likely that a disease is present. Otherwise, the USDA's foreign animal disease diagnostician may take samples from animals suspected of being infected and send them to laboratories in Plum Island, N.Y., or Ames, Iowa, for determination.

The Kentucky Department for Public Health also may become involved if the disease is one that is transmitted between animals and humans and, as such, poses a danger to human health.

The Office of the State Veterinarian shall be notified if any of the following are suspected:

- Any contagious or infectious disease not known to exist in the United States (the USDA veterinarian also shall be notified).
- Any contagious or infectious disease that is not commonly found in Kentucky.
- Any vesicular condition (the USDA veterinarian also shall be notified).
- Any laboratory reports that suggest a threat to Kentucky's poultry industry.

Report any suspected signs of livestock disease to your local veterinarian. Other appropriate emergency numbers include: Office of the State Veterinarian **(502/564-3956)**, U.S. Department of Agriculture Veterinary Services **(502/227-9651)**.

Dead Animal Disposal

Proper dead animal removal and disposal is important to protect human health, the livestock industry itself, and the environment. It is a chief concern in all counties of the Commonwealth.

According to the Kentucky Agricultural Statistics Service, there are 2.7 million cattle, swine, and sheep in Kentucky. Horses and chickens are not included in that number.

There are nearly 2.1 million cats and dogs in the state, according to an American Veterinary Medicine Association 1996 survey. With a mortality rate of 3 percent to 5 percent, the magnitude of animal carcass disposal can be great in those counties with high populations.

State law provides the legal methods for animal carcass disposal. The owner shall dispose of the carcass within 48 hours after it is found unless the carcass is preserved in cold storage.

Approved methods are:

- Incineration;
- Boiling or steaming above boiling temperatures for 2 hours or more;
- Burying with restrictions – not in flood plain, 100 feet from watercourse, sinkhole, well, spring, public highway, residence, or stable; open abdominal and thoracic cavities length of carcass; in hole at least 4 feet deep; covered with 2 inches of quicklime and 3 feet of soil;
- Removal by duly-licensed rendering establishment;
- Deposition in a contained landfill approved under KRS Chapter 224;

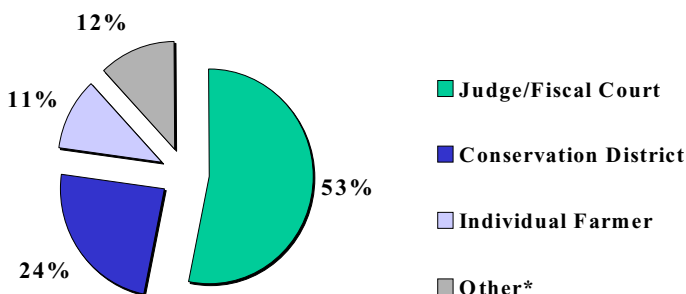
- Composting according to 302 KAR 20:052 or KRS Chapter 224; or
- Any combination of the above or any other scientifically-proven method approved by the Board of Agriculture.

Animal carcasses must be transported according to state law. Carcasses should be hauled in a covered vehicle, bed or tank which is constructed so that no drippings or seepings from the carcasses can escape from the vehicle, bed or tank. If the driver suspects that the animal died of a communicable disease, the vehicle must be disinfected.

Any animal that has died of a highly contagious, infectious or communicable disease shall not be transported except by specific methods approved by the Department of Agriculture.

The County Judge/Executive usually receives the first call about dead animals. The following graphic shows who administers local programs:

Administration of County Dead Animal Disposal Programs in Kentucky



* Includes Sheriff's Department, Farm Bureau, Solid Waste, Extension Service, Cattlemen's Association, Pork Producers' Association, County Road Department, and/or Animal Control

•From statewide survey with 67 counties responding

Sources of Assistance:

Kentucky Department of Agriculture

- Office of State Veterinarian, Frankfort – **(502) 564-3956**
- Office of Environmental Services, Frankfort
– **(502) 564-4696**

Conservation District

- Office is located in each county, listed in telephone directory under that county

Division of Conservation

- Office of the Director, Frankfort – **(502) 564-3080**

Under the state Division of Emergency Management plan, in a crisis the Kentucky Department of Agriculture is charged with:

- Coordinating the care and/or disposal of domestic animals.
- Coordinating animal care, euthanasia of injured animals, and disposal of dead animals.

In addition, in a crisis KDA is responsible for:

- Coordinating sheltering of pets in cooperation with the Kentucky Veterinary Medical Association.
- Conducting field investigations, collecting samples, overseeing laboratory tests, assisting in providing necessary animal control equipment and supplies, and providing technical assistance to local government in cooperation with the Department for Public Health.
- Coordinating the evacuation of any livestock as a result of a disaster.

Environmental *emergencies*_____

Pesticides

The Kentucky Department of Agriculture's Division of Pesticide Regulation regulates the sale, distribution, storage, and application of pesticides in Kentucky. The division strives to educate the pest control industry and consumers about the proper use of pesticides through education and training programs conducted across the state.

The division's primary role in an emergency is to prevent contamination of food or water supplies from agricultural chemicals or pesticides. Its duties include providing advice and technical assistance.

The division licenses and certifies aerial applicators and keeps a database of those who are licensed and certified. The division, the National Association of Structural Pest Control Regulatory Officials, and the National Association of State Departments of Agriculture are developing a national database of aerial applicators. The regulatory officials association also is working on a process to screen for applicants who may pose a risk.

The Division of Pesticide Regulation urges all farmers and agribusinesses to draw a map indicating where fuel, chemicals and pesticides are stored on the farm and mail a copy to your local fire department.

Do-it-yourself mapping of farm chemical locales

Use this page to draw a map indicating where fuel, chemicals and pesticides are stored on your farm or agribusiness. Mail a copy to your local fire department. Be sure to include clear directions to the operation.

Your name or business _____

Address _____

Telephone number(s) _____

Other pertinent information _____

Hazardous Chemicals

The Kentucky Emergency Operations Plan spells out the procedures for addressing a release of hazardous materials. Among the substances listed as hazardous materials are pesticides and restricted-use wastes from slaughterhouses or poultry processing plants.

In a situation that is under the control of local emergency officials, state personnel may serve as members of the local response team, technical advisors, support staff, or observers.

The section of the state emergency plan that governs emergencies involving hazardous materials may be implemented when requested by local officials or when local resources are

inadequate to cope with the situation. In the event the incident clearly requires management by state personnel, any qualified state agency staff may request activation of the state emergency plan and additional support. If more than two state agencies are involved in management of the response to an emergency, the state emergency plan will be implemented.

When the state emergency plan is activated, the state will assume authority for management of the incident scene. The Kentucky Division of Emergency Management will be

In an agriculture-related emergency, the Kentucky Department of Agriculture assists with: identification and disposal of agricultural wastes, chemicals, and pesticides; disposal of animals, including but not limited to those involved in transportation accidents; coordinating efforts to prevent the spread of communicable disease among animals; and providing emergency telephone numbers to the emergency operations center.

responsible for coordinating the response and recovery efforts of state personnel.

The first state agency representative arriving on the scene will assume operational control of the state response effort until the incident commander, if required, and the state agency having primary responsibility reports to the scene. The incident commander will be responsible for coordinating the activities of all local, state and federal agencies involved in the incident response. The Department for Environmental Protection Emergency Response Team is a key group to manage the hazardous chemical spill.

The state emergency plan specifies procedures for handling equipment and removing and cleaning protective clothing at an incident site to avoid contaminating clean areas.

All state agencies involved in the emergency response will dispatch, when requested, a representative to the emergency operations center who is authorized to act on behalf of that agency and empowered to commit agency resources.

In the event of threatened or actual release of hazardous materials, local government, in coordination with appropriate state and/or federal officials, will endeavor to isolate and restore the area to normal. Officials will rely on the responsible party to remove or mitigate the hazard.

Kentucky's Emergency Response Team

The Kentucky Department for Environmental Protection (KDEP) has an Emergency Response Team made up of staff trained to respond immediately to environmental emergencies such as accidents where hazardous material may have been spilled.

When an actual spill or release of a hazardous material occurs or when there appears to be a threat of severe environmental harm, the Environmental Response Team (ERT) can be reached toll-free 24 hours a day, 7 days a week by calling **1-800-928-2380**. Environmental damage can sometimes be reduced by a quick response and application of appropriate clean-up techniques.

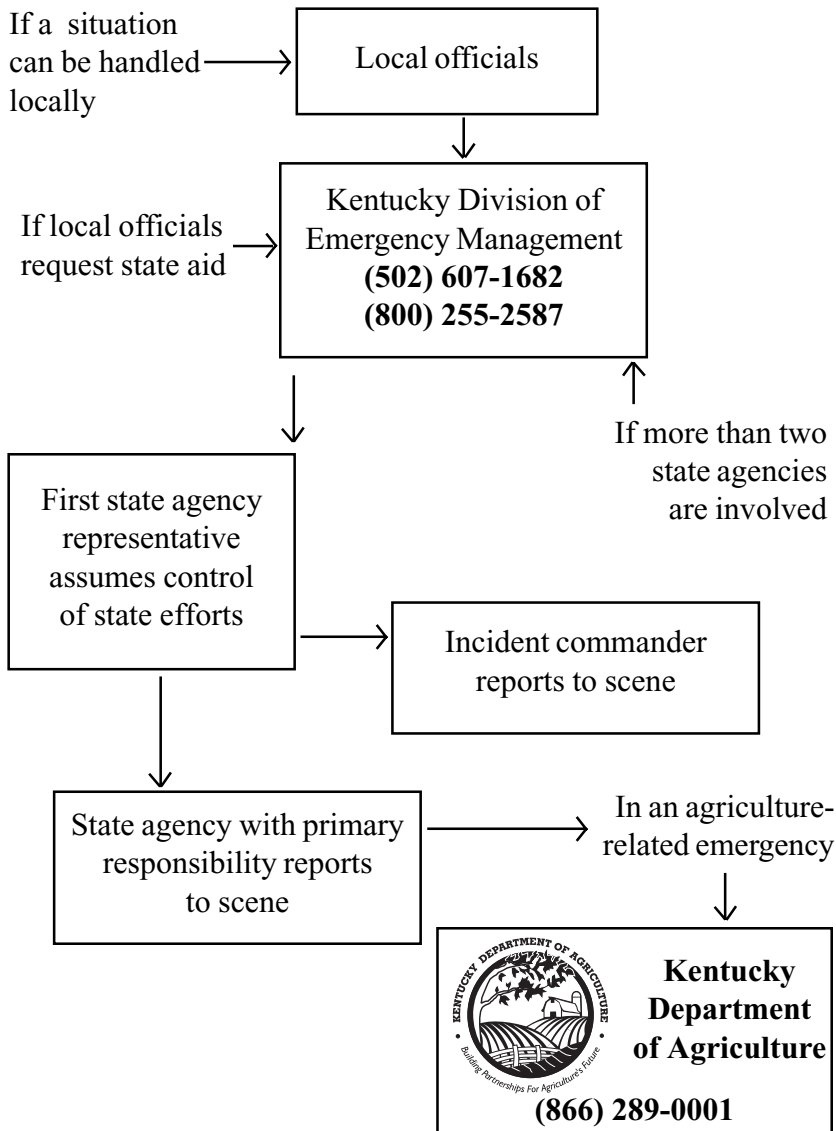
According to the Division of Water, anyone who possesses or controls hazardous substances, pollutants or contaminants, or petroleum or petroleum products, must report a spill of such substances other than a permitted release or application of a pesticide in accordance with the manufacturer's instructions. Reportable quantities are 25 gallons or more of a petroleum product within a 24-hour period and 75 gallons or more of diesel fuel in a 24-hour period, or any amount that creates a visible sheen on surface waters.

Anyone who witnesses the "spill or "release" of such materials should immediately report it to the ERT.

The ERT determines whether a response is necessary; coordinates with the divisions of Air Quality, Waste Management or Water, as appropriate, or other state agencies; monitors the emergency situation; and files a report including actual and necessary clean-up costs and costs of ERT services. The party responsible for the release of a hazardous material, whether discharged by accident or through negligence, is liable for the cost of ERT services.

A chemical crisis

————— *What happens next?*



Emergency numbers

These telephone numbers will assist you in handling a variety of crisis situations at your home, farm or agribusiness. Please note that in many communities, **911** is the number to call for fire, police and ambulance services; however, that is not true in many areas of Kentucky.

Your local fire department _____

Your local police department/sheriff _____

Your local ambulance service _____

Kentucky Division of Emergency Management ... (502) 607-1682
..... 1-800-255-2587

Livestock

Kentucky Department of Agriculture,
State Veterinarian's Office (502) 564-3956
USDA APHIS Veterinary Services (502) 227-9651

Hazardous chemicals

Natural Resources and Environmental Protection Cabinet
Environmental Response Center (502) 564-2380,
..... 1-800-928-2380
State Fire Marshal (502) 564-3626
Off-duty hours 1-800-255-2587
Chemical Transportation Emergency Center .. 1-800-424-9300

Poisons

Poison Control Center (nationwide 24-hour number)
..... 1-800-222-1222
Kentucky Department of Agriculture,
Division of Pesticide Regulation (866) 289-0001
Chemical Transportation Emergency Center 1-800-424-9300

Radiological assistance

Radiation Control Branch, Cabinet for Health Services
..... (502) 564-3700
Off-duty hours (502) 564-7815

Military chemical, explosives and nuclear weapons

Fort Knox EOD team DSN 464-6426
After duty hours staff officer DSN 464-6450
Fort Campbell EOD team DSN 635-2825x2312

Military chemical, explosives and nuclear weapons (continued)

Nuclear, chemical accident/incident control team
..... (502) 624-2751 x 5448
Federal nuclear accident/incident assistance,
Oak Ridge, Tenn., operations office (615) 576-1005
Kentucky State Police 1-800-222-5555

Water-related incidents

Natural Resources and Environmental Protection Cabinet ..
..... (502) 564-2380,
1-800-928-2380
U.S. Coast Guard – call National Response Center
..... 1-800-424-8802
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency 1-800-424-8802

Highway accident or other incidents involving transportation

Kentucky Department of Highways (502) 564-4556
Division of Motor Vehicle Enforcement (502) 564-3276
Kentucky State Police 1-800-222-5555
U.S. Department of Transportation,
Federal Highway Administration,
Kentucky Division (502) 223-6720

Aircraft incidents

Kentucky State Police 1-800-222-5555
Kentucky Department of Military Affairs ... (502) 564-7815
Federal Aviation Administration (502) 582-6118
State Fire Marshal (502) 564-3626
Off-duty hours 1-800-255-2587

Railway accidents involving explosives

Bureau of Explosives, Association of American Railroads .
..... via the railroad company
Division of Explosives and Blasting (502) 564-3019

Fire and Explosives

State Fire Marshal (502) 564-3626
Off-duty hours 1-800-255-2587
Division of Explosives and Blasting (502) 564-3019

Oil and gas well incidents

Department of Mines and Minerals (502) 564-3019
Division of Oil and Gas (859) 254-0367



Kentucky Department of Agriculture

Billy Ray Smith, Commissioner
Capitol Annex, Suite 188 * Frankfort, KY 40601
(502) 564-5126 * TTY (502) 564-2075

www.kyagr.com

EMERGENCY PHONE NUMBERS

Kentucky Emergency
Management
1-800-255-2587

Kentucky State Police
1-800-222-5555

Ky. Dept. of Agriculture,
State Veterinarian
1-502-564-3956

Kentucky Environmental
Response Team (ERT)
1-800-928-2380

Federal Bureau of
Investigation (FBI)
1-502-223-3644

USDA APHIS
Veterinary Services
1-502-227-9651

Kentucky Regional
Poison Control Center
1-800-222-1222

National Response Center
(Toxic chemical, oil spills)
1-800-424-8802

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